

Naxos
World



pipa

from a distance: featuring Wu Man

CHINA

PIPA

76037-2

Naxos
World

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|-------|
| 1. Invocation | 2:20 | 7. White Crane Flying | 6:38 |
| 2. Dancing! | 5:42 | 8. Ambushed Again | 5:08 |
| 3. Ancient Spirits | 3:21 | 9. Bamboo Dreams | 9:48 |
| 4. Walking to the East..... | 5:56 | 10. From A Distance | 2:41 |
| 5. Shanghai Blues | 6:31 | | |
| 6. Vincent's Tune..... | 5:07 | | |
| | | Total Time - | 53:19 |

Pipa: From a Distance: Featuring Wu Man

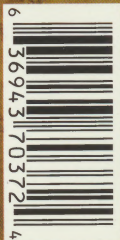
The pipa is a lute-like instrument with a history of more than two thousand years. During the Qin and Han Dynasties in China, instruments with long, straight-necks and round resonators with snake skin or wooden sound boards were played with a forward and backward plucking motion that sounded like "pi" and "pa" to fanciful ears. Hence, all plucked instruments in ancient times were called "pipa." The modern pipa's many left and right hand fingering techniques, rich tonal qualities and resonant timber give its music expressiveness and beauty which are lasting and endearing. On this recording, virtuoso Wu Man performs pieces showcasing the remarkable musical range of the pipa, from traditional styles to wonderful new melodies.



pipa: from a distance: featuring Wu Man

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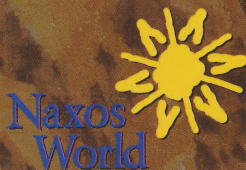
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Throughout my career I have always loved a challenge and always believed that the pipa, in principle, is no different than any other musical instrument in terms of its musical expression. The pipa belongs not only to the Chinese classical repertoire, but also to the rest of the world.

Since I moved to the West, I have collaborated with many wonderful musicians and composers. With them, I have taken the pipa in many different directions. These collaborations have given me a tremendous musical experience. In this improvisational album, I wanted to see how far the pipa could go, and how diverse my musical style could be. That is why I made this album.

Though I enjoy playing both traditional pieces and contemporary works, my most intense curiosity is with improvisation. It gives me so much freedom to express myself in so many ways. I would like to introduce all Naxos World listeners to my version of the new pipa music.

Thanks go to all the following people:

My husband Peng and my lovely son Vincent for their inspiration and support. Dolores Canavan and her predecessor, Andrew Sun, at Naxos World. Special thanks to Abel Domingues, Stuart Dempster, DJ Tamara, David Kumin, Stewart Lerman, John Schaefer, Alan Thwaites, David Harrington and my manager Colette Domingues, who have given so much to this project. Finally, to my father, Wu Guo Ting, for allowing me to use his beautiful painting for the CD cover.

WU MAN

Wu Man - pipa

Stuart Dempster - didjeridu, trombone, toys/plumbing, slide whistle

Abel Domingues - guitars, banjos, samples

DJ Tamara - turntables, additional samples

Produced by: Abel Domingues and Wu Man

Recorded by: David Kumin and Stewart Lerman at The Shine Box, NYC

Digital Editing: Abel Domingues

Mixed by: David Kumin and Abel Domingues at The Shine Box, NYC

Photography: Robin Holland

Cover Art: Wu Guo Ting

我喜歡不斷地挑戰自己，並認為琵琶的豐富表現力與任何樂器沒有區別，它不僅源於中國古典音樂，同時亦屬於世界性範圍的。

居住在西方後，我曾與許多優秀音樂家、作曲家合作。與他們一起，我把琵琶帶到了不同的音樂領域中。這些工作給予我極大的音樂經歷和經驗。在這張即興演奏唱片中，我想看到琵琶到底走多遠，我的音樂風格又能有多大的變化，這就是我做這張唱片的原因。

當然，我喜愛傳統曲目及新作品的演奏。但我最好奇的領域是一即興演奏。即興能給予我許多表達自己空間和自由。在此，我將這張我個人版本的“新琵琶音樂”介紹給聽眾們！並感謝所有支持、幫助過我的親人及朋友們！

吳蠻

Wu Man is an internationally renowned pipa virtuoso, cited by the Los Angeles Times as 'the artist most responsible for bringing the pipa to the Western World.' She is an inheritor of the Pudong School of pipa playing, one of the most prestigious classical styles of Imperial China and is a graduate of the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. Wu Man is the first recipient of a master's degree in pipa and is not only an outstanding exponent of the traditional repertoire, but is also recognized as a leading interpreter of contemporary pipa music.

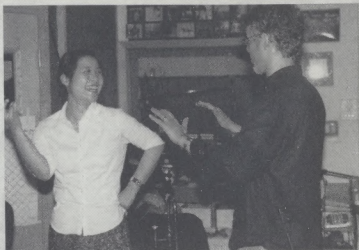
Born in Hangzhou, China, Wu Man studied with Lin Shicheng, Kuang Yuzhong, Chen Zemin, and Liu Dehai at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. She currently lives in Boston where she was selected as a Bunting Fellow at Radcliffe Institute of Harvard University. Wu Man was selected by Yo-Yo Ma as the winner of the City of Toronto Glenn Gould Prolegy Prize in music and communication. Wu Man is also the first artist from China to have performed at the White House with the noted cellist with whom she now performs in the Silk Road Project.

When in China, Wu Man received many awards, including the first prize in the 1st National Music Performance Competition. She also participated in many groundbreaking premieres of exciting works by a new generation of Chinese composers. Since moving to the USA, she has continued to champion new works and has inspired new pipa literature from composers Terry Riley, Philip Glass, Lou Harrison, Tan Dun, Bright Sheng, Chen Yi and Zhou Long.



Invocation

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP) & Abel Domingues (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipa
Stewart Dempster: bells
Abel Domingues: e-bow guitar, samples, audio manipulations



Dancing!

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP), Stuart Dempster (ASCAP),
Abel Domingues (ASCAP) & Tamara Weikel (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipa
Abel Domingues: plectrum banjo, samples/beats
Stewart Dempster: didjeridu
DJ Tamara: turntables, additional samples



Ancient Spirits

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP) & Stuart Dempster (ASCAP)
Wu Man: bowed pipa
Stewart Dempster: rainstick, bird calls

Walking to the East

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP), Stuart Dempster (ASCAP)
& Abel Domingues (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipa
Stewart Dempster: didjeridu, shaker
Abel Domingues: samples/beats



Shanghai Blues

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP) & Abel Domingues (ASCAP)
Wu Man: electric pipa
Stewart Dempster: ocarina
Abel Domingues: samples/beats

Vincent's Tune

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipas
Vincent Wang: toy piano, singing
Stewart Dempster: didjeridu, bicycle horn
Abel Domingues: samples/beats

White Crane Flying

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP), Stuart Dempster (ASCAP)
& Abel Domingues (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipa
Stewart Dempster: trombone, didjeridu
Abel Domingues: e-bow guitar, samples

Ambushed Again

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipa solo

Bamboo Dreams

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP), Stuart Dempster (ASCAP),
Abel Domingues (ASCAP) & Tamara Weikel (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipa, toys
Stewart Dempster: chanting, bicycle horn, garden hose, toys
Abel Domingues: wah-wah and slide guitars, samples, toys
DJ Tamara: turntables, piano guts, toys

From A Distance

©2003 Wu Man (ASCAP)
Wu Man: pipa solo



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